WASHINGTON.

The War of Republican Senators on the President.

BITTER ATTACKS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Futile Opposition to Confirming Hilliard Minister to Brazil.

Republican Comfort Extracted from the Returning Board Trials.

SENATOR BLAINE ON THE BLAND BILL.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1878. THE RETURNING BOARD TRIALS AND HOW THEY APPECT THE REPUBLICANS.

unlikely to assume an extraordinary and unexpected portance here, where they attract the attention o republican politicians, not account of the possible con-viction of Wells and Anderson, for which nobody in either party seems to care, but because of what is

President will not in any manner interiore for the protection of the Returning Board members. If they lift a finger to shield them. Nor had the private meeting of the "visiting statesmen" here the other day any purpose of promising aid or countenance to Weils and Anderson. Messrs. Sherman, Matthews, Hale, Garfierd and others desire to protect themselves said and saw in New Orleans while oversceing the deturning Board, and the time may presently come when they will make a formal and public statement, which may draw a reply from the democratic visiting

Vernon parish returns form the only matter about which, so far, wrong is formally charged against Wells their hands all the summer and fall, this trial of the Returning Board is really a confession by the democrais that there was no such fraud in Louisiana as vitiated the election; that, in fact, the democrats, for the sake of punishing the Returning Board, are virtually giving up their great point, which was that Louisiana was rightfully carried by the democrats. It is clear that, ven if the fraud charged in the Vernon returns is fully proved, that would not change the vote of Louother frauds or changes can be shown, the Vernon parish frauds would change the vote of the State by a good many republican politicians have dreaded the charge of traud in Louisiana which they knew would be brought against them in the next campaign. These now laugh and say that the Louisiana democrats are conveniently helping them out of their troubles. They know that the Vernon parish matter cannot be used in a manner to are properly punished, but it would be absurd to hold a whole party responsible for a mere incident in an election which did not affect the general result.

"If the democrats admit that we carried the State, as they are doing by these trials, then what do we care about the Returning Board? If those fellows or any of them did faisily the Vernon will have to be punished, that's all. But it does not change the result; it does not convict the party of canvass and the next Presidential campaign with that

his is the way it looks to the republicans.

But there is also another view taken of the matter y some republicans. These say openly that if the the Vernon parish fraud was the only one which they pap prove against the Returning Board, it is Wneeler, but also that Packard, carried the State, and to be reinstated.

"If he was elected," say they, "as we have always they will do if they cannot show any other fraud than in Vernon parish, or perhaps in East Feliciana, then Nicholls is bound to give way to Packard; and if he does not do so willingly, then the President is

Such is the tone and temper in which the Return ing Board trials are discussed here in republican circles. Under the circumstances it is not surprising that the republicans are well pleased at the devel

MINISTER FOSTER TO APPEAR BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS-THE QUESTION OF RECOGNIZING DIAZ.

The House Committee or Foreign Affairs are to talk with Minister Foster about Mexican affairs at the State Department to-morrow morning. The interview will be private, and Mr. Foster will not be asked to appear before the committee at the Capitol at all, it diplomatic officer in public. The only minutes of his conversation with the committee will be taken down by the shorthand writer of the State Department, to be filed among the archives.

There is an impression that the government is

acting any preliminary conditions, it being thought that he has shown, not only that he is firmly scated sition toward this country is in every way fair. THE CALIFORNIA CONTESTED ELECTION-THE

DEMOCRATIC MEMBER SEATED.

A contested election case is absolutely the only question on which nowadays a strict party vote can unseating the republican, Pacheco, of California, and seating Wigginton in his place, and only two members Potter and Leonard, of Louisiana, voting against both

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1878. A BITTER FIGHT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION-NOMINATION OF HILLIARD AS MINISTER TO BRAZIL CONFIRMED-ATTACKS ON THE AD-

this afternoon. The doors closed about half-past three and did not reopen until nearly seven o'clock. The calendar was proceeded with quietly at first, and a number of the Senators left the Chamber, not supposing that business of any special interest was coming up. When the nomination of Mr. Rilliard, of Georgia, to be Minister to Brazil was reached, the minority report of the Committee on Foreign Re ed up, and Senators Hamlin, Conking and Howe, who constituted this minority, subjected forisy of the committee, who urged the confirmation ere Senator Matthews, republican, and the four dem ocratic members of the committee, Mossrs, McCresry,
Johnston, Eaton and Wallaca. The democratic
members of the Senate enjoyed the faultfinding with the President until Senator
Edmunds moved to recommit to the committee for further lavestigation. The vote developed present, unless some who were paired voted as their pairs would vote, and as this would not be a breach of

tors. The motion to recommit was lost, and the de-termination being plainly to all out the debate, even if there had to be a call of the Sonate, the republicans opposed to the President con-tinued their attacks on the administration. The as not worthy of further consideration, and he was congrmed by a vote of 28 year to 12 mays. There would not have been this opposition had it not been that a number of the democrats were obliged to vote no to make up a quorum. The debate, however, was

no to make up a quorum. The debate, however, was plainly significant of attack on the administration.

Mr. Hamilin is very sore over the manner in which President Hayes treated the recommendation of the Maine delegation in filling the office of United States Marshal and District Attorney of Maine. These nominations are yet to be acted upon, and the thrusts against the President's selection of Hilliard are understood to indicate bitter personal attacks on all nominations of any importance bareafter.

The report of the Commerce Committee adverse to of Mobile, is in the keeping of Senater Spencer, who, it is said, has a fashiou of pocketing such reports. At the next executive session a motion will be made to take this out of his custody and press it to attacks upon the administration; so also will the adverse report on the nomination of Mr. Williamson to be Collector of the Port of New Orleans be made the pretext for assailing the civil service policy of President Hayes. It is contended by some of the members of the Commerce Committee that the nomi-nation of Mr. Williamson was made in the interest of General Anderson, and, if this charge is renewe in executive session, the action of the Returning Board and the manner in which the visiting statesmen conducted themselves can then be defended or explained. It is certain that henceforth the proceedings of executive sessions will be unusually lively

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1877. THE SOUTHERN TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILBOAD

QUESTION-ARGUMENT OF COLONEL SCOTT. The Senate Committee on Railroads heard this morning, on behalf of the Texas Pacific Railroad, Colonel Scott, who presented the broad grounds on which the government was asked to aid the enterprise. These briefly were:-That the Southern line must be a competing line free from all control by other corporations and with the regulation of its rates re-served to Congress; that to insure low rates the line must be built at lowest cost; that the natural advantages of the thirty-second parallel were now supplemented by the lowest prices government and the public would thus secure the enefits of a line costing \$50,000,000, instead of the 226,000,000 of the present line, the relief to the deressed industries and idle labor of the country from its construction would be very great. He claimed that the government would directly save \$3,000,000 a year it it paid every dollar of interest which it guaranteed, while the rich stream of Oriental commerce would not traverse our continent except a cheap transcontinental road unobstructed by snow was provided; that Chicago and other Northern cities would have a shorter route to the Pacific over this line, while all the Southern ports and centres would be immediately benefited. He claimed that it was contrary to human nature to suppose that the Central Pacific would build a road to compete with themselves, and that they would evade any promise they might give by crippling the facilities on ten to fifteen cents per mile. Mr. Scott claimed that could reap one dollar of profit under the bill out of the building of the road, and that his present investment was amply protected by the earnings of the completed

The committee, having decided to hear three alternate speeches from each side, the Texas and Pacific to close, Mr. Storrs opened for the Southern Pacific of California, reciting its powers under the acts of Con-gress and of California. The committee adjourned, o meet at half-past ten o'clock to-morrow.

THE PREEDMAN'S HOSPITAL-PROGRESS OF THE INVESTIGATION-TESTIMONY PAVORABLE TO

The Senate sub-committee on appropriations, in-vestigating the management of the Freedmen's Rospital, held a long session this morning and heard tes timony from Dra Palmer, Purvis and Manning. The sub-committee had previously personally inspected the and an apparent good use made of the government appropriations. The testimony taken by the committee this morning tended to show that the intostified that they have been kept there from its foundation; that they are under the same system of nurses as other patients and have the same food and care; that they are barmless and inoffensive except in tearing their own clothes; that no violence is used toward them, and that they have not committed any.
In regard to the accusation made against Dr.

Palmer, the surgeon in charge, that he kept as boarders the hospital students belonging to the Howard University, the testimony given to-day was to the effect that three students board at the hospital, two chaptains and a carpenter; that they work for their board, costing about \$6 a month each, and that be-fore Dr. Palmer's administration the chapital was paid \$100 per month and had quarters for himself and wile and stabling for his borse. The cost to the government is now but \$12 per month for better service. The chaplains visit the sick patients daily, give re ligious consolation to the sick and dying, hold religious services, write the letters of patients, &c. The carpenter is a medical student and saves the wages of one, working for his board. It was also in testimony that all articles used for the hospitals are bought of wholesale dealers on competition and at the lowest rates. The cooks and purses have not been changed witnesses examined to-day also testified that the centhe institution, and that only a few bring charges about their food, &c. The committee state that it is their intention to probe the charges to the very bottom and to hear all parties.

THE CHARGES AGAINST DOORKEEPER POLK. The examination of the Committee on Civil Reform in the public service, to whom the charges against the the House, were referred, has not thus far elicited any facts seriously affecting him. The friends the Doorkeeper say that all their state ments will be satisfactorily explained. The testimony to-day showed that one of the charges against Colonel Polk original in the arrangements of some of the members of Congress themselves in providing for their respective friends, three democratic appointments from New England to subordinate positions in the House coming under the pooling operation. Until to-day Colonel Polk had no counsel, but B. W. Hanna, of Indiana, is now acting for him in that capacity.

HONORARY COMMISSIONERS TO THE PARIS EX-POSITION.

The following is a list of the honorary commissioners to the Paris Exposition:

Andrew D. White, of New York; Levi P. Morton, of New York; George W. Childs, of Pennsylvania; W. H. H. Davis, of Pennsylvania; A. L. Coolidge, of Massachunotts; Frederick Smytne, of New Hampshire; Frank Millward, of Kentucky; James H. Smart, of Indiana; Aifred Hibard, of Iowa; William H. Meore, of North Carolina; Edwin Cawles, of Onio; Benjamin E. Gallup, of Itinois; E. H. Koight, of the District of Columbia; William Seligman, of California; S. T. Merrill, of Wisconsin; J. M. Safford, of Teunossee; J. A. Towner, of Arizona; Austin Bavage, of Itaho, and William Hayden, of Utah.

THE SILVER DEBATE.

SPEECHES OF SENATORS BLAINE, OF MAINE, AND JOHNSTON, OF VIRGINIA.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1878. The morning hour having expered, the Senate reumed the consideration of the unfinished business being the Silver bul.

SPECCE OF MR. BLAINS. Mr. BLAINE, (rep.) of Me., said :- The discussion the question of remonetizing silver, Mr. President

of the constitution—indeed the money of the American people anterior to the constitution, which that Congress has, therefore, in my judgment, no power to no power to demonstize either any more than to demonstize both. In this statement I am but repeating the weighty dictum of the first of constitutional lawyers. "I am certainly of opinion," said Mr. Web-ster, "that gold and silver, at rates fixed by Congress,

constitute the legis standard wave he in this country, and that neither Congress nor any State has authority standard. Few persons can be found, I apprehend, who will maintain that Congress possesses the power to demonstrate both gold and niver, or that Congress could be justified in prohibiting the coinage of both, and yet in logic and legal construction it would be difficult to show where and why the power of Congress over sliver is greater than over gold-great or the congress of the congress of the congress of the congress of the congress over sliver in the coinage has been prohibited I am in lavor of ordering it to be resumed. It is has been restricted I am in lavor of having it challeged.

**Scond-Whan power, then, has Congress over gold and sliver, In the line to regulate their value; very great, very wise, very necessary powers, for the circumstance exercise of which a critical occasion has now arisen, llowever mon may differ about causes and processes, all will admit that within a few years a great disturbance has taken place in the relative values of gold and sliver, and that sliver is worth less or gold and sliver, and that sliver is worth less or gold and aliver, and that sliver is worth less or gold and aliver, and that sliver is worth less or gold and sliver, and that sliver is worth less or gold and sliver, then the congress of that day were, surrounding us, is to willing and that a liver is the congress of that day were, surrounding us, is to willing and blindly decrease of the facts and circumstances of that day were, surrounding us, is to willing and sliver, into now as though the lacks and circumstances of that congress and the congress of the cong

gain, therefore, would we make for the creditating monium, it, on opening the gaie for silver to flow in, we open a still wider gate for gold to flow out? If it would declare that until Europe remonetizes we cannot afford to coin a dollar as low as #12½ grains. After Europe remonetizes on the old standard we cannot afford to coin a dellar above 400 grains. It we coin too low a dollar before gaeral remonetization our gold will low out from us. If we coin too high a dollar atter general remonetization our silver with leave us. It is only an equated value both before and after general remonetization that will preserve both gold and silver to us.

remonetization that will preserve both gold and silver to us.

Nourth—Consider further what injustice would be done to every holder of a legal tender or national bank note. That vast volume of paper money—over \$700,000,000—is now worth between ninoty-eight and ninety-nine cents on the dollar in gold con. The holders of it, who are indeed our entire population from the poerest to the wealthiest, have been promised from the poerest to the wealthiest, have been promised from the poerest to the wealthiest, have been promised from the poerest to the wealthiest, have been promised a form the poerest to the wealthiest, have been promised from the poerest to the wealthiest, have been promised from the poerest to the wealthiest, have been promised from the paper money would one day be as good as gold. To pay silver for the greenback is a full compliance with this promise and this obligation, provided the silver for the greenback has been hitherto, as good as gold. To make our silver coin even three per cent less valuable than gold inflicts at once a loss of more than \$20,000,000 on the holders of our paper money. To make a silver dollar worth but mnety-two cents precipitates on the same class a loss of well nigh \$50,000,000. For whatever the value of the silver collar is the whole paper issue of the country will sink to its standard when its contage is authorized and its circulation becomes general in the connuels of trade. Some one in conversation with Commodore Vanderbilt during one of the many ireight competitions of the trunk lines, said, "Why, the Ganadian road has not sufficient carrying capacity to compete with our great tine?!" "That is true," replied the Commodore, "but they can fix a rate and force us down to it." Were Congress to pass a law to-day declaring that every legal tender note and every national bank note shall hereafter pass for only innery-six or tinety-seven cents on the dollar there is not a constituency in the United States that would re-erect a man that should support it, and in many districts INJUSTICE TO THE CREDITOR.

in the United States that would re-elect a man that should support it, and in many districts the Representative would be incky if he escaped with merely a minority vote.

And yet it is almost mathematically demonstrable that the same effect will inevitably follow from the coinage of an interior silver dollar. Assurances from empirica and scientists in finance that remonetization of the former dollar will at once and permanently advance its value to par with gold, must go for want they are worth in the lace of opposing and controlling facts. The first and instant effect of issuing any silver dollar that will pay customs dees and interest on the public debt will undoubledly be to raise it to a practical equality with gold; but that condition will only last until the amount needful for customs shall fill the channels of its use; and the everflow going into general circulation will rapidly settle to its normal and actual value, and then the discount will come on the volume of the paper currency, which will sink par passe with the siver dollar, in which it is made redeemable. That remonetization will have a considerable effect in advancing the value of the dollar is beyond doubt, but not enough to overcome the difference now existing a difference resulting from causes quite independent of our control on this continent.

How Silver can fix Remonerized.

Fifth.—The responsibility of re-establishing silver in its ancient and honorable place as money in Europe and America devolves reality on the Congress of the United States. If we act here with prudence, wisdom and firmness we shall not only successfully remonetize silver and bring it into general use as money in our own country, but the influence of our example will be potential among all European nations, with the possible exception of England. Indeed, our annual indeciment to Europe is so great that if we have the right to pay it in silver we necessarily corece those nations by the strongest of all forces, self-interest, to aid us in upholding the value of silver as

them as money and reducing it to the situation of mere merchandise."

And then Mr. Hamilton wisely concludes that this reduction of either of the metals to mere merchandiso (I again quote his exact words) "would proudily be a greater evil than occasional variations in the unit from the fluctuations in the relative value of the metals, especially if care be taken to regulate the proportion between them with an eye to their average commercial vatue." I not not think that this country, holding so vast a proportion of the world's supply of silver in its mountains and its mines, can afford to reduce the metal to the "situation of mere merchandise." If silver ceases to be used as money in Europe and America the great mines of the Pacific slope will be closed and dead. Missin genterprises of the gigantic scale existing in this country cannot be carried on to provide backs for looking lissess and to manufacture cream pitchers and sugar bowls. A vast source of wealth to this entire country is destroyed the moment silver is permanently disased as money, it is for us to check that tendency and bring the continent of Europe back to the full recognition of the value of the metal as a medium of exchange.

Secenth—The question of beginning anew the comage of silver dollars has aroused much discussion as to its effect on the public creat; and the Sanator from Ohio (Mr. Matthews) placed this phase of the subject in the very lorefront of the debace—insisting, prematurely and illogically, I think, on a sort of judicial construction in advance, by concurrent resolution, of a certain law in case that law should happen to be passed by Cooperesa. My own view on this gudestion can be stated very briefly. I believe the public creditor, of a certain law in case that law should happen to be passed by Cooperesa will not permit us to overturn its relations of property in this country, and a wise self-interest will not permit us to overturn its relations by seeking for an inferior dollar wherewith to settle the dies and demands of any credi

upon on with a vengeance as manifold as the aggregate wealth of the Republic transcends the comparativety small limits of our bonded debt. And remomber that our aggregate wealth is always increasing, and our bonded debt steadily growing less! If paid in a good sliver dollar the bondholder has nothing to complain of. If paid in a good sliver dollar the bondholder has nothing to complain of. If paid in a ninterior sliver dollar he has the same grievance that will be utered still more plaintwely by the holder of the legal-tender note and of the national bank bill, by the pensioner, by the day laborer, and by the countless host of the poor, whom we have with us always, and on whom the most distressing effect of inferior money will be ditimately precipitated.

But I must say, Mr. Freshent, that the specific demand for the payment of our bonds in gold coin and in nothing else comes with an ill-grace from certain quarters. European criticism is leveled against us, and hard names are hurled at us across the occan for simply daring to state that the letter of our law declares the bonds to be payable in standard coin of July 14, 1870; expressly and explicitly declared so, and declared so in the interest of the public creditor, and the declaration inserted in the very body of the eight handred million of bonds that have been issued since that data. Beyond all dequite so its edge to the capital standard coins of that public act. Payment at that time would have been as acceptable and as undispeted in silver as in gold collars, for both were equally valuable in the European as acceptable and as undispeted in silver as in gold dollars, for both were equally valuable in the European as well as in the American market. Seveneighties of all our bonds, ewned out of the country, are held in terfmany and in Holland, and Germany has demonetized silver, and Holland been forced thereby to suspend its coinage, since the subjects of both Powers purensed our secretics. The German Empire the very year after we made our specific deciaration

for drawing gold from as to and in establishing their gold standard as home. Thus, by one move, the German government destroyed, so lar as lay in its power, the then existing value of gold, and then got into position to draw gold from as at the inomen of tome of each of the control of the gold from the at the inomen of our own sorral distress. I do not say that the addition of the control of t

as those of the Bank of England and doing away at

as those of the Bank of England and doing away at ones with the dreaded inconvenience of silver on account of bulk and weight.

I do not fail, Mr. President, to recognize that the committees and avowals of senature on this question present the committees and avowals of senature being adoled. Indeed, I do not fail to recognize that on this question I am not in line with sther extreme; with those who believe in the single gold standard or with those who believe in the single gold standard or with those who believe in the single gold standard or with those who by premature and unwess exton, as I must recard it, would horce us to the single silver standard. Either will be found, in my judyment, a great misortune to this country. We need both gold and silver, and we can have been only by making each the equal of the other. It would not be difficult to show that, in that against warere both have been tully recognized, the most measure of the transfer of the property was been only in the foundation of the whole outperstructure of walter. The present with the will be of any interest of the will be presented to the recales at classes, but with the prins with the wale outperstructure of walter. The present will be the desired the present of the present of

ate. He therefore gave notice that if the applause should be repeated the galleries would be cleared.

SPECH OF MR. JORNSTON.

Mr. JOHNSTON, (dem.) of Va., said the discussion on this Silver bill had been so protracted that he did not expect to say anything which had not been already said, but the subject was one of great importance to the people of the whole country and he felt it incumbent on him to state briefly why he supported the bill, it could not have escaped the attention of any one that a portion of the public press, especially at the North, and indicated that the South stood ready at any time to repudiate the public debt of the United States.

PEKLING OF THE SOUTH.

He (Mr. Johnston) wished to say for himself and on behalf of his Southern colleagues on this floor that no people had national houre more at heart than the people of the South. They had passed through the most terrible suffering, and did not propose to andergo the journey again. If they had no better motive for uphoiding the national honor than that of self-interest they would not do anything to bring discredit upon the government. The people of the South knew that their condition was indissolutly mixed up with that of the North, and they must uphoid the honor and credit of the government. All were in the same ship, and the Southern people did not propose to scuttle or wreck that vessel. So far as they were concerned, they proposed she should have a prosperous voyage. He argued that silver was one of the products of the country, and it was the duty of Congress to see that it was not injured. There was a great popular demand for the remountization of silver. The people of the country, and it was the duty of Congress to see that it was not injured. There was a great popular demand for the remountization of silver would drive gold out of the country, and spoke at length of the necessity of a bilind to the popular demand. He denied that the remonetization of silver would drive gold out of the country, and spoke at length of the necessity of a

Referring to the demonstraing of silver by Germany he said all knew that the German Empire to-day, notwithstanding the large indemnity received from France, was in the threes of inancial distress. This did not speak well of the practical effect of demonstraing silver. He then spoke of the value of silver to the colored people of the South and said they knew nothing about the value of gold and did not appreciate paper. Remonetize silver and much of it would be absorbed by them. Philanthropists and abolitionists who had from the negro ought to consider what they should do for his practical benefit. Give the colored people of the South the money they want and it would make them better chizens. They would have something to work for and it would encourage industry.

Mr. Hill, (dem.) of Ga, then took the floor, but before proceeding with his remarks yielled to Mr. Mor. William Morrow, an old shipwright when the doors were frequency at the session, and when the doors were frequency at half-past six o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT. WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1878.

midshipmen to be ensigns to the Senate to-day :-York Nowell, of Penusylvania; A. C. Hodgson, of Georgia; W. G. Cutler, of Nevada; C. Laird, of Onio; N. R. Usher, of Indiana; F. S. Carter, of Illinois; A. Sharp, of the District of Columbia; C. A. Corbin, of Michigan; F. E. Beaty, of Minnesota; M. L. Wood, of wick, of South Carolina; G. Storey, of Alabama; F. A. Milligan, of Tennessee; J. M. Helm, o A. Milligan, of fednosese; J. M. Heim, of Tennessee; C. McR. Winslow, of Massachu-setts; C. H. Amsden, of Ohio; W. S. Hughes, of Iowa; F. F. Fletcher, of Iowa; H. G. Worcester, of New York; H. H. Hosley, of New Hampehire; C. Mc-Cartney, of Pennsylvanin; R. H. Towniey, of Ne-braska; R. M. Doyle, of Tennesseec; H. J. Hunt, of Rhoue Island.

The ESSEX AT ST. HELENA.
The United States steamer ESSEX, Captain W. S.
Schley, a rived at St. Helena on the 2d uit., from Loande, Africa, and proceeded the same day for Brazil.

REPORTS FROM THE ASIATIC AND NORTH PA-CIFIC STATIONS-LOCALITY AND MOVEMENTS OF VESSELS.

Advises from the Asiatic Squadron, received at the Navy Department, state that the Tennessee (flagship), Ashuelot, Ranger and Palos were at Shanghat, and the Alert at Yokohama. The Asnuelot had arrived November 27 from Tsinen, which place she left Noto be docked for examination of bottom and planks and to be painted. It was the intention of Rear Admiral Patterson to leave Shanghai in the flagship Tennessee for Hong Kong, touching at Amoy. The Ashdelet and Pales were to

touching at Amoy. The Ashuelot and Palos were to remain at Snanghai for the present. The Monocacy was at Bangkok, Siam, but would meet the flagship at Hong Kong about the middle of February. The Alert was docked at Yokohama to have her bottom cleaned and painted. The Ranger would leave in a day or two for Hong Kong, with instructions to visit Foothew.

The general health of officers and crews of the squadron was good.

THE NORTH PACIFIC STATION.

Advices from Rear Admiral Murray, commanding the North Pacific station, dated on board his flagship the Pensacola, off Honolulu January 22, state that the German frigate Elizabeth and English guidboat Daring were in that port. The former would sail in a few days for Central America and thence home. The latter would remain at Honolulu some months.

The political condition of the Islands is reported to be quice, but there was some apprehension of trouble by the Queen Emma party on the meeting of the Legislatire April 1. The health of the officers and crew is good.

STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE.

It was reported at the Brooklyn Police Headquarters last evening that Mrs. Margaret Anderson, of No. 222 East Twenty-seventh street, this city, was missing. She visited her aunt, who resides in Nostrand avenue, Brooklyn, on Monday, and remained with her until Tuesday morning, when she departed for home. Her relatives have not hearn of her since that time and are very anxious concerning her. Mrs. Anterson, who is twenty-six years of age, was attired in a black dress, a blue feit hat with bige trimmings and a black cioth clock. She is supposed to have become insane through religious excitement.

OFFICIAL TRAINING FORGOTTEN.

Ex-Alderman William A. Gardinor, of the Fifth ward, Brooklyn, was held to await the action of the Grand Jury by Judge Walsh yesterday, on complaint of Patrick Dougherty, who charged him with brutally assaulting him on January 25, 18 Navy atrect. The assault was published at the time. The accused furnished ball in the sum of \$750. AFTER THE WRECK.

INVESTIGATION INTO THE CONDITION OF THE STEAMER PREVIOUS TO THE DISASTER-DE-TAILS OF HER STOWAGE-BOTTEN WOOD IN HER SIDES.

In compliance with the order from Washington United States District Steamboat Inspectors Joseph Mershon and F. T. Hand met at the United States Ap praiser's Suilding to-day to begin an investigation inte a passenger with the ratiroad expedition; Mor ris Boney, of this city, the stevedore whe loaded the ship; Edward Lafourcade, a clerk with the party, and Dr. George D. Green, the surgeon of the ship. It appeared from the testimony of the first witness that the trip of the Metropoits was an eventful one from the first:—In the evening of the second day out there was an alarm of fire; the hatches in the forward cabin were taken up and as examination made and it proved to be a false alarm in an hour or two after that we had notice given us work throwing coal overboard; we subsequently had a report that the leak had been stopped and that we might be able to reach Hampton Roads; I cannot tell the hours when these things took place, but they all occurred on Wednesday night; about twelve o'clock midnight we lost our amokestack; we got in sight of Curritack at daylight Thurs-day morning and the vessel was run ashore; the steamer had a crew of twenty-four and a railros force of 221, and from one to three stowaways-

the steamer had a crew of twenty-four and a railroad force of 221, and from one to three stowsways—I never had any knowledge of but one—making 246, as har as I can ascertain at present; we lost from seventy-five to eighty railroad men and ten of the crew.

Now SHE WAS LOADED.

Morris Boney, the stevedore, testified that he had loaded the ship with 500 tons of railroad from and lumber and supplies of different kinds; the principal part of the iron was stowed amidships in the lower hold, according to the captain's directions; the iros forward was stanchioned and screwed down with planks and the space filled in with provisions; the same thing was done amidships; in the after lower hold there was nothing but coal; not more than twenty-five tons; that much would fill it up; between decks torward was stowed exactly as the lower hold, three high, stanchioned and decked over for bertha; the top of the iron amidships and between decks was covered and filled in with immber; in the after between decks there were from fileen to twenty tons of iron, one tier high, which was planked over and berths put down; in my judgment the iron could not have been stowed any better than it was for that class of vessel; I have been a stovedore for fifteen years.

"What was the draught of the vessel when she left here?" asked Captain Hand.

"I don't know exactly what her draught was, but it hink it was about eleven and a half forward and thirteen and a half ait."

"Are you loading the City of Richmond, which is going out next?"

"In stowing the from on the Metropolis."

"In stowing the from on the Metropolis for the mauner in which the iron was stowed, to have made any change in the ship."

"No, sir; and I don't think it was possible, from the mauner in which the iron was stowed, to have made any change in the ship."

"No, sir; I have loaded vessels which were weaker than the Metropolis much heavier than the Metropolis much heavier than the Metropolis much heavier than she were

DAMAGING TESTIMONY.

I went out myself to get pieces of the wrack to ascertain the condition of the vessel; I found one piece from the ribs of the ship, which I lound to be rotten; there was no trouble in getting rotten wood about the beach; one large piece of the wreck floated asnore with sixteen bars of the railroad iron fastened to it; it seemed to come from about minishing; it was not as much decayed as the other parts were, but there were rotten timbers in it; what rotten wood I saw came generally from the placking and timbers of the aft end; I found wood so rotten that I could orush it up with my ingers; we could not find a piece rotted out entirely, of course, but the sap part was gone, while the other was soind; I called the captain's attention to the fact of their being rotten; I had a rotten piece and a black piece, and the captain said it was customary for wood to turn that coloraiter a short time.

On Monday best the steamboat inspector from New York who examined the Metropolis there for her last voyage is to be subposned as a witness. His testimony will be rigidly scrutinized.

HOW THE METROPOLIS WAS MADE READY FOR

One by one the facts with regard to the steamer men and shipbuilders yesterday, lound that the facts met with Mr. William Morrow, an old shipwright who has worked as master mechanic on the Black Warrior, Catawba, M. U. Roberts' steamships and

Mr. Morrow said, "Yes, I know all about it. The Motropolis was one of the rottenest tubs that eveleft the city of New York."

When asked how he accounted for the statements of those connected with the vessel, he said:-- Captain Anker, of the steamer Metropolis; Joseph Roo ney, shipwright; James E. Larry, surveyor to Lloyds of London, and Mr. Poilion, pronounced her in good condition and seaworthy when she left the port of New the steamer himself and had a brace and bit with him and bored into her timbers he would have found out

and bored into her timbers he would have found out her true condition. As for Captain Anker, he knew nothing about the vessel. Mr. Rooney says that they saw her timbers and they were all sound."

"Hew do you know they were in such a bad condition?" asked the reporter.

"Well, in the spring of 1875, either in February or March, I was employed to repair the vessel. Sue was then unseaworthy and her owners wanted her fixed up so as to pass the inspection. The work was done at bight to escape observation. The vessel was lying at the foot of Canas street. I found her timbers in very bad condition. Her butts had all started, both forward and amidships, port and starboard. To fasten them we nead to take oil a piece of the outside planking about two and a half inches square and then lasten the butts with boits to her side. The boits were driven in half an inch or so below the surface of her sides and then the heads of the boits were covered with square pieces of wood the size of the pieces taken out, so that the heads of the boits could not be seen. Then this was painted over, so that the work could not be detected. I borde right through the outside plank and found her timbers rotten—so rotten, in fact, that I could push the auger right through the obtside plank and found her timbers rotten—so rotten, in fact, that I could push the auger right through into the coiling inside. I had to let in the heads of the boits on the outside and cover them with a square plug of wood and then to do the same on the inside. The vessel was towed around on a sunday might after she had been that repaired to the sectional dock between the loot of Pike and Rutgers street. The timbers were so rotten that the boits oid not hold well, and by the time she got to her new wharf a good many of them had started again and the work had to be done over. The timbers the rotten then and they wouldn't get any better by growned closer, would they? They must have grown sound asince 1873 if Mr. Poillon's statement is true.

Reporter—Could not the vessel hav

any better by growing other, would they? They must have grown sound since 1873 it Mr. Poillen's statement is true.

REPORTER—Could not the tessel have been repaired so as to make her seaworthy?

Mr. Morkow—The only way she could have been made seaworthy would have been to take her to pieces and put in new timbers. Her keel may have been good. I did not examine that, but new timbers were certainly needed to make her seaworthy. The parts I examined were all above light watermark. At was sne was not lit to go quistide of Sandy Hook.

REPORTER—Have you any evidence of her condition besides your own testimony?

Mr. Morkow—I can get any quantity of men who knew about it. The testimony that has been published is all one sided. If the insurance companies want testimony it will be easy for them to find it. The Mortopois was the most miserable tub I ever came across in my life.

REPORTER—Who were her owners at the time you worked on her?

worked on her?
Mr. Mornow—Lunt & Co., the same owners as

Mr. Morrow-Luht & Co., the man be authorities of the deception that was being practised on them at the time?

Mr. Morrow-Well, I would have thrown up the job and informed the insurance companies of the vessel's true condition, if it had been my own work. But I was employed by another man, and was acting under his orders. He bired me to do the job. His iname was John Smith, and he has since died.

THEY BEAT US ONE.

Margaret Wilson, of No. 326 West Twenty-sixth street, engaged in a fight with Mrs. Jolin on Wednesday and was in a fair way of coming out victorious, when Timothy Jolin, husband of the losing party, took a hand. He is said to have stabbed Mrs. Wisson and then to have kineed and jumped upon her. He was held in \$1,000 yesterday in the Jefferson Market